Rail Accidents

3291. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of railway accidents which took place after the 16th February, 1989 so far this year; and

(b) the loss of life and property as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There were 42 train accidents, including 29 to goods trains, on the Indian Railways during the period 16.2.1989 to 15.3.1989. 31 Persons lost their lives in these accidents and damage to railway property was estimated at Rs. 91 lakhs approximately.

Coal Jetty at Tuticorin Port

3292. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the capacity of present coal jetty at Tuticorin Port;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct another coal jetty at Tuticorin Port;

(c) what would be its capacity;

(d) what would be its estimated cost; and

(e) by when it is expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The designed capacity of the existing coal jetty at Tuticorin Port is 2.25 million tonnes per year (MTPA).

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The capacity of the second coal jetty would be 2.5 MTPA.

(d) According to the Feasibility Report prepared by Tuticorin Port Trust in June, 1988 the estimated cost is approximately Rs. 10 crores.

(e) The jetty would be completed within four years from the date of sanction.

Commissioning of Tuticorin Airport

3293. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the area of land required for Tuticorin Airport;

(b) what area of land has since been acquired and, whether the same has been taken over by the National Airports Authority of India;

(c) what would be the length of the runway of the Airport and what types of Aircraft would be able to land;

(d) whether the night landing facility would be made available at the Airport;

(e) what would be the estimated cost of the Airport; and

(f) what funds have been allotted so far and by when the Airport is expected to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) About 180 acres.

(b) 180 acres of land has been handed over to the National Airports Authority.

(c) The dimensions of the runway would be 4500' x 100' and it will be suitable for Avro type of aircraft operation.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The estimated cost will be Rs. 2.00 crores excluding the cost of development and levelling of land.

(f) A provision of Rs. 50.00 lakhs has been made in the Annual Plan 1989-90. Construction is planned to be completed in 12 months after the land is developed and levelled.

Bullets found in Indian Airlines Airbus

3294. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six .22 calibre bullets were found on a seat of Indian Airlines Airbus at Bombay Airport when it arrived from Delhi on January 21, 1989; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken for the security lapse in this case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Seven .22 calibre cartridges were found on a seat of Air-bus aircraft operating flight IC-184 from Delhi to Bombay on 21st January, 1989.

(b) The Bombay Police have registered a case under the Arms Act.

New IA Flights from Calcutta to Bombay and Bangalore

3295. SHRI BASUDEB MOHAPATRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines propose to introduce new flights from Calcutta to Bombay *via* Bhubaneswar and Nagpur and Calcutta to Bangalore *via* Bhubaneswar and Hyderabad;

(b) if so, by when these flights are likely to be introduced; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) Indian Airlines, at present, has no plans to introduce any new services due to severe capacity constraints. Introduction of services between Bhubaneswar-Bangalore and Bhubaneswar-Bombay will depend upon the induction of new aircraft into the fleet of Indian Airlines and adequate traffic potential existing on these sectors.

Pantry Car in Long Distance Trains

3296. SHRI N. RAJANGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have suffered any losses for providing pantry cars containing 75 berths in long distance trains;

(b) if so, what is the total loss incurred for each pantry car in comparison to providing a sleeper coach; and

(c) what are the reasons for incurring such heavy losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) Pantry cars are attached to certain trains for providing better catering services as a passenger amenity, and not on financial consideration.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Selection for the Posts of Assistant Superintendent in South Central Railway

3297. SHRI PUTTAPAGA RADHAKRISHNA:

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1566 given in the Rajya